



Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 12 Targets:

12.1) **Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production**, all countries taking action, **with developed countries taking the lead**, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries

12.2) By 2030, achieve the **sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources**.

12.3) By 2030, **halve per capita global food waste** at the retail and consumer levels and **reduce food losses along production and supply chains**, including post-harvest losses

12.4) By 2020, **achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals** and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly **reduce their release to air, water, and soil** in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

12.5) By 2030, substantially **reduce waste generation** through **prevention, reduction, recycling, and reuse**

12.6) **Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices** and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle

12.7) Promote **public procurement practices that are sustainable**, in accordance with national policies and priorities

12.8) By 2030, **ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature**

12.a) **Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns** of consumption and production

12.b) Develop and implement tools to **monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism** that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

12.c) **Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption** by **removing market distortions**, in accordance with national circumstances including by **restructuring taxation** and **phasing out those harmful subsidies**, where they exist, **to reflect their environmental impacts**, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities

See further resources on goal 12 and sustainable consumption and production on page 4.

Take action toward achieving goal 12

Take action locally:

- **Congregational actions:** *Engage members of your congregation in action either through volunteering, advocacy, exercises, or wider congregational changes.*
 - Inquire about recycling at your congregation. Ask if it is possible to purchase bins for recycling paper, plastic, glass, and metal if you don't have a way to do so already.
 - Try to start a compost bin at your congregation where members can bring in organic waste instead of throwing it out.
 - Fundraise to buy reusable mugs for coffee hour instead of using paper or plastic cups.
 - Take your youth group to volunteer with [the Campus Kitchens Project](#) (US only), where you can prepare and deliver food made in high school and college kitchens.
 - Take your congregation on a gleaning trip, where you can visit a local farm or orchard and collect or prepare surplus crops to be distributed rather than thrown out. Some organizations are listed here:
 - The [Society of St. Andrew](#) (Eastern/Midwestern/Southern US)
 - The [Ontario Association of Food Banks](#)
 - [Fruit Share](#) (Manitoba)
 - A [directory](#) of smaller-scale organizations in the U.S. and Canada
 - The [Fraser Valley Gleaners Society](#), not listed above, is a small-scale gleaning near Vancouver, BC.
- **Petitions:** *Sign the following petitions advocating for sustainable consumption and production in the U.S. and Canada. Collect signatures at your congregation by booking a table during coffee hour.*
 - [Tell Walmart](#) to stop throwing away edible food just because it looks abnormal, contributing to enormous levels of food waste.
 - [Tell the Canadian Minister of Finance](#) to end Canadian fossil fuel subsidies, which encourage the continued growth of the oil industry.
 - [Urge the United States House of Representatives](#) to pass the Food Recovery Act, which would introduce multiple measures to curb food waste in the U.S.
- **Films for screening:** *Host a film screening and discussion of any of the following documentaries on sustainable consumption and production in the U.S. and Canada at your congregation.*
 - [Just Eat It: A Food Waste Story](#): A documentary made by a Canadian couple who ate only discarded food for six months to emphasize how much good food is wasted in North America.
 - [My Toxic Backyard](#): A film telling the story of a small town's battle for clean water against toxic substances in the ground from an old factory.
 - [Bag It](#): A documentary about a man who decided to stop using plastic bags and investigates the impact of how much plastic America uses.

- **Book club reads:** *Consider forming a book club with a few members of your congregation to read and discuss any of the following books on sustainable consumption and production in the U.S. and Canada.*
 - [**American Wasteland: How America Throws Away Nearly Half of Its Food \(and What We Can Do About It\)**](#): Jonathan Bloom discusses the causes of food waste in the United States.
 - [**Plastic-Free: How I Kicked the Plastic Habit and How You Can Too**](#): Beth Terry describes her efforts to live without plastic and instructs her readers on how to lower their own plastic usage.
 - [**Drowning in Oil: BP & the Reckless Pursuit of Profit**](#): Loren Steffy investigates how the history and character of the global fossil fuel industry led to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010.
- **NGOs working toward the cause:** *Hold a fundraiser or collection plate for any of the following NGOs working toward sustainable consumption and production in the U.S. and Canada.*
 - [**The Campus Kitchens Project**](#) saves and distributes uneaten food at high school and college kitchens through student volunteers to feed members of local communities.
 - [**The Society of St. Andrew**](#) collects donated produce from farms across the United States and distributes it to the hungry.
 - The [**Ontario Association of Food Banks**](#) runs numerous programs to make food consumption in the province more sustainable, including encouraging local buying, gleaning unused food, and helping to feed the hungry.
 - (note the list of smaller-scale gleaning organizations under “Congregational actions”)

Take action internationally:

- **Petitions:** *Sign the following petitions advocating for sustainable consumption and production across the globe. Collect signatures at your congregation by booking a table during coffee hour.*
 - [**Urge the governments of the European Union**](#) to mandate that all supermarkets donate unsold food to charity instead of throwing it out.
 - [**Tell the President of Nigeria**](#) to demand that Shell clean up oil spillage in the Niger Delta, which the corporation has been leaving unattended for years.
- **Films for screening:** *Host a film screening and discussion of any of the following documentaries on sustainable consumption and production across the world at your congregation*
 - [**Crude Impact**](#): A documentary about the role of oil in humanity’s history and future.
 - [**TED talk: The Global Food Waste Scandal**](#): Tristram Stuart discusses the problem of edible food being discarded worldwide.
- **Book club reads:** *Consider forming a book club with a few members of your congregation to read and discuss any of the following books on sustainable consumption and production across the world.*
 - [**Waste: Uncovering the Global Food Scandal**](#): Tristram Stuart journeys the world in an attempt to discover the causes and intricacies of food waste in developed countries and food shortages in developing nations.

- [***Sustainable Tourism***](#): Edited by Rob Harris, Peter Williams, and Tony Griffin, this volume features various discussions of environmentally friendly travelling, its challenges, and its reception worldwide.
- **NGOs working toward the cause**: *Hold a fundraiser or collection plate for any of the following NGOs working toward sustainable consumption and production across the world.*
 - [**Feedback Global**](#) works to discover and mitigate the causes of worldwide food waste, hosts meals with discarded food, and runs campaigns involving deforestation and animal feed, among other things.
 - [**The Travel Foundation**](#) helps to spread information about the impact of tourism on communities worldwide and to make travel more sustainable and more beneficial to local communities.

Further resources on goal 12 and sustainable consumption and production:

- [**Goal 12 targets and related publications on sustainable consumption and production**](#)
- [**UN facts and figures on Goal 12**](#)
- [**Global Goals images relating to Goal 12**](#)
- [**The UN Development Program \(UNDP\)'s work in achieving Goal 12**](#)
- [**Global Citizen Report on international progress made to reach goal 12**](#) and the future steps necessary to continue toward its achievement